REGEIVED GENTRAL FAX GENTER

JUL 2 7 2006

C O V E R

S H E E T

FAX

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK

The Farragut Building

Suite 710

900 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

TEL: 202-887-9023 FAX: 202-887-9093

To:

._____

Mail Stop Amendment

Firm:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Fax #:

571-273-8300

From:

Ronald J. Kubovcik (Registration No. 25,401)

Date:

July 27, 2006

Pages:

4 including this cover sheet.

Re:

Appl. No.

10/606,374

Confirmation No. 2800

Applicant

Junichi IGARASHI ct al.

Filed

June 26, 2003

TC/A.U.

3763

Examiner

Christopher Koharski

Dkt. No.

NPR-123

Cust. No.

20374

Document transmitted herewith:

(1) RESPONSE TO

ELECTION OF SPECIES

REQUIREMENT

(Due: July 27, 2006)

THIS PACSIMILE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY NAMED ABOVE (OR THOSE PROPERLY ENTITLED ACCESS TO THE INFORMATION). UNAUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTION, DISSEMINATION, OR COPY OF THIS TRANSMISSION IS PROHIBITED.

IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS TRANSMISSION IN ERROR, PLEASE DESTROY IT AND IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US BY COLLECT TELEPHONE CALL OR BY FACSIMILE. THANK YOU.

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. :

10/606,374

Confirmation No. 2800

Applicant :

Junichi IGARASHI et al.

Filed

June 26, 2003

TC/A.U. :

3763

Examiner :

Christopher Koharski

Dkt. No. :

NPR-123

Cust. No. :

20374

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted on July 27, 2006, to the United States Patent and Trademark Office

to facsimile number (571)273-8300.

Ronald J. Kubovcik

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

July 27, 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2006.

In the Action, election of one of the following species is required:

- (A) Figures 1, 2 and 19,
- (B) Figures 11 to 14,
- (C) Figures 22A to C and 24A to B, and

P:\07-06\npr-123-pto-resp-elec-spec.wpd

(D) Figures 23A to B.

Applicants elect group (A), Figures 1, 2 and 19, as the species. This election is made without traverse.

Upon election of group (A) as the species, an election of one of the following sub-species is also required:

- i) Figures 3A to C,
- ii) Figure 4,
- iii) Figures 5A to C,
- iv) Figures 6A to C,
- v) Figures 7A to C,
- vi) Figures 8A to C,
- vii) Figures 9A to C, and
- viii) Figure 10.

Applicants elect group (i), Figures 3A to C, as the subspecies. This election is also made without traverse.

Claims 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 22, 24 and 25 are believed to read upon the elected species.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2006, and is believed to place this application in condition for allowance. If, however, minor issues remain that can be resolved by means of a telephone

interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK

Ronald J. Kubovcik Reg. No. 25,401

Atty. Case No. NPR-127
The Farragut Building
Suite 710
900 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Tel: (202) 887-9023
Fax: (202) 887-9093
RJK/jbf

P:\07-06\npr-123-pto-resp-elec-spec.wpd